#### REGIONAL FUGITIVE TASK FORCES

# CATCH OF THE WEEK

Week of March 20, 2006

# Taking the Worst of the Worst Off the Streets

# Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force (PSWRFTF)

On March 22, 2006 Karl Edward Goeke was arrested in Portland, OR by members of the PSWRFTF, the District of Oregon (D/OR) Fugitive Task Force, and officers from the Los Angeles, CA and Portland, OR PDs. The Cecil County (MD) Sheriff's Department wanted Goeke for child sexual abuse and nine counts of 2<sup>nd</sup> degree sex offenses involving young boys. Charges allege that Goeke and two associates, Donald Acheson Smith and John Neisworth, repeatedly sexually assaulted a young victim over a period of many years. Goeke allegedly posed as a mentor to the child and repeatedly molested him. Goeke's alleged accomplices also began to molest the victim during trips throughout the eastern US that the victim accompanied Goeke on. Following a profile on the FOX network program America's Most Wanted on February 25, 2006, investigators received information indicating that Goeke worked at a comedy club in the Los Angeles area. Within an hour of receiving the initial information, a PSWRFTF surveillance team arrived on scene at the comedy club where Goeke performed. Investigators learned that Goeke left the Los Angeles area in October 2005, and lived in Portland. Investigators immediately flew to Portland and coordinated with the D/OR Fugitive Task Force. Within twenty-four hours, investigators confirmed Goeke's location and took him in to custody.



Wanted for:
Child Sexual Abuse
&
2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Sex Offenses

#### New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force (NY/NJ RFTF)

On March 22, 2006 members of the NY/NJ RFTF arrested Seymour Townsend in Jamaica, Queens, New York. Authorities in Pittsfield, MA sought Townsend for the March 03, 2006 murder of his wife. During a heated domestic dispute, Townsend allegedly stabbed his wife fifty-four times, killing her. Investigators in Massachusetts immediately contacted NY/NJ RFTF for assistance after learning that Townsend fled to New York City. Following an intensive, multi-agency investigation, task force personnel identified several target locations relating to Townsend's activities. While responding to one suspect residence in Jamaica, Queens, investigators observed, and then took Townsend in to custody. Once Mirandized, Townsend confessed to the murder. Townsend currently awaits extradition to Massachusetts.



Seymour Townsend
Wanted For:
Murder

### **Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force (GLRFTF)**

On March 22, 2006 Stephen Pocina was arrested in Oak Brook Terrace, IL by members of the GLRFTF. Authorities wanted Pocina for Reckless Homicide and Fleeing the Scene of an Accident Involving Death. Pocina allegedly crashed his vehicle in to a Metra commuter train station, killing an employee. Pocina then fled the scene of the accident, remaining on the run for three weeks. Authorities formally charged Pocina after DNA analysis matched blood collected from his SUV against DNA recovered from his apartment. GLRFTF investigators learned that Pocina was hiding at his uncle's apartment in Oak Brook Terrace, a suburb of Chicago. GLRFTF investigators proceeded to the location and arrested Pocina.



Stephen Pocina
Wanted for:
Reckless Homicide &
Fleeing the Scene

## **Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force (SERFTF)**

On March 21, 2006 Jose Albert Laval was arrested in Atlanta, GA by members of SERFTF and deputies from the Clayton County (GA) Sheriff's Office. Authorities in Clayton County wanted Laval for Violation of Parole, original charge of cocaine distribution. Investigators developed information concerning Laval's location at a residence in Atlanta, and established surveillance at that site. A short time later, investigators observed Laval enter a vehicle driven by another male, conducted a vehicle stop as the driver attempted to leave the area, and took both men safely in to custody. Investigators observed a plastic bag containing 14.5 grams of individually packaged cocaine on the floor of the vehicle, while a search of Laval and the driver produced a small quantity of marijuana and more than \$2,500 in US currency. Laval has an extensive prior criminal record of assault, burglary, weapons violations, and narcotics offenses.



Jose Albert Laval

Wanted for:

Violation of Parole
(Cocaine Distribution)

#### **Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF)**

On March 17, 2006 William James Truesdale was arrested in Northeast Washington, DC by members of the CARFTF. A warrant out of DC Superior Court charged Truesdale with second degree murder, alleging that he took part in an unsolved 1993 homicide. Following the issuance of a warrant, Metropolitan Police Department detectives handed Truesdale's case over to CARFTF. One day later investigators located, identified, and arrested Truesdale.



William James Truesdale Wanted for: Homicide